

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4299
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2012
CONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEES
Choudhary Shri Harish;Jaiswal Shri Gorakh Prasad

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Committees constituted to assess the condition of Muslims in the country before the constitution of the Sachar Committee;
- (b) the names of the Committees whose recommendations have been accepted;
- (c) whether the Government has examined the reasons for there being no improvement in the condition of Muslims despite implementing the said recommendations; and
- (d) if not, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID)

(a)&(b): The Committee for Promotion of Urdu was appointed by the Government in May, 1972 under the Chairmanship of Shri I. K. Gujral, the then Union Minister of State, Ministry of Works & Housing. The report of the Gujral Committee was submitted on May, 8, 1975. The report was laid on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament on February 21, 1979.

In May 1980, a High Power Panel was constituted by the Government to ascertain if the benefits of various fiscal policies of Government, both of Central and States, really reach the minorities, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other weaker sections of society. Dr. Gopal Singh chaired this Panel. The Final Report was presented to the then Home Minister in June 1983.

(c)&(d): Yes. The Government is undertaking various measures for the improvement of the condition of minorities, such as:-

(i) The Multi-sectoral Development programme (MsDP) which is an area development programme aimed to address the development deficit identified by a baseline survey to improve the socio-economic infrastructure and basic amenities in the 90 Minority Concentration Districts (MCDs).

(ii) The Prime Minister's new 15 Point Programme comprising of various welfare Schemes for the minorities are being implemented by this Ministry and ten other Ministries / Departments. An important aim of the programme is to ensure that the benefits of various government schemes for the underprivileged reach the disadvantaged sections of the minority communities. In order to ensure that the benefits of these schemes flow equitably to minorities, the programme envisages the location of a certain proportion of development projects in minority concentration areas. It also provides that, wherever possible, 15% of targets and outlays under various schemes should be earmarked for the minorities.

(iii) Free Coaching and Allied Scheme implemented since 2007-08.

(iv) Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme implemented since 2008-09.

(v) Post-matric Scholarship Scheme implemented since 2007-08.

(vi) Merit cum Means Scholarship implemented since 2007-08.

(vii) Equity contribution to National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation for enhancing credit.

(viii) Grant in aid to Maulana Azad Education Foundation for minority welfare activities.